TWO MEXICAN HABENARIAS

BY

OAKES AMES AND LOUIS O. WILLIAMS

In the study of Mexican Habenarias the following new species and the new combination were found to be necessary.

Habenaria umbratilis Ames & Williams sp. nov.

Herbae terrestres usque ad 4.5 dm. altae. Folia elliptica vel elliptico-lanceolata, quinquenervia. Sepalum dorsale ovato-orbiculare, trinervium, cucullatum. Sepala lateralia lanceolato-triangularia, acuta vel obtusa, trinervia, arcuata. Petala lanceolata, acuta, arcuata uni- (vel bi-) nervia. Labellum trilobatum; lobi laterales recurvati; lobus medius anguste ligulatus. Columna generis.

Erect leafy terrestrial herbs up to about 4.5 dm. tall. Stems slender, strict or flexuose, leafy (especially above the middle). Leaves 8-12 cm. long and 2-3 cm. broad, elliptic to elliptic-lanceolate, acute, with five main nerves. Inflorescence up to about 10 cm. long, crowded; bracts 1-3 cm. long, lanceolate, acuminate, usually shorter than the ovary. Flowers small for the size of the plant. Dorsal sepal about 4 mm. long and 3.5 mm. broad, ovate-orbicular, 3-nerved, cucullate. Lateral sepals 4.5-6 mm. long and 2.5-3 mm. broad, lanceolate-triangular, acute or obtuse, 3-nerved, arcuate. Petals about 3.5-4 mm. long and 1.5-2 mm. broad, lanceolate, acute, arcuate, 1-(2-) nerved, with or without a small tooth at the base. Lip 3-lobed, the lobes slender and the lateral lobes longest; lateral lobes about 10 mm. long and about 1 mm. broad, spreading, recurved; mid-lobe 5-6 mm. long and about 1 mm. broad, narrowly ligulate. Column of the genus.

Mexico: in grass, in shady places in forest, about Tomasopo, State of San Luis Potosi, longitude ca. 99°23′ West, latitude ca. 21°50′ north, at ca. 500 meters altitude, September 3, 1937, Dino 6957 (Type in Herb. Ames No. 50948).

Habenaria umbratilis seems to have no near allies among the Mexican Habenarias.

Habenaria entomantha (Llave & Lex.) Lindley var. subauriculata (Robins. & Greenm.) Ames & Williams comb. nov.

Habenaria subauriculata Robinson & Greenman in Proc. Am. Acad. 32 (1896) 34—Ames Orch. 4 (1910) 254, t. 77, figs. 3-4.

Habenaria entomantha var. subauriculata differs from the species in having the petals entire or merely subauriculate, not deeply bifid.